

CITY OF PERRIS

MINUTES: Special Meeting of the City Council
Date of Meeting: 28 March 2006
Time of Meeting: 4:00 p.m.
Place of Meeting: City Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Honorable Mayor Busch called the Special Meeting of the City Council to order.

4:00 p.m. Called to Order

2. ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Rogers, Yarbrough, Landers, Motte, Busch

All Council Members present.

Staff Members Present: City Manager Apodaca, Finance Director Carr, Public Works Director Ansari, Interim Development Services Director Belmudez, Assistant to City Manager Madkin, and City Clerk Rey.

Staff Members Present

3. WORK SESSION:

A. Planning Commissioner Appointments.

Planning Commissioner Appointments.

Introduced by: Richard Belmudez, Interim Director of Development Services

Interim Director Belmudez explained that the Planning Commission was the advisory board that makes recommendations regarding land use for the City. Since four of the seats on the current Planning Commission had expired, the purpose of this meeting was to give candidates an opportunity to make a presentation, after which the Council would at their pleasure appoint four new members to the Commission. Mr. Belmudez noted that the first candidate, Mr. Anderson, had withdrawn his application as of that afternoon. He also noted that Mr. DeCosta had a scheduling conflict and would try to be at the meeting before 6 o'clock, but had asked that he still be considered for appointment in the event that he was not able to be there in time.

Interim Director Belmudez stated that the Planning Commission was the advisory board that makes recommendations regarding land use for the City. Since four of the seats on the Commission had expired, the purpose of this meeting was to give candidates an opportunity to make a presentation, after which the Council would appoint four members to the Commission.

City Attorney Dunn explained to the candidates what the process would be, stating that at the end of the presentations and questioning periods, each Councilmember would mark four names on their ballot, and he would then read the names of the candidates selected by each Councilmember and mark them on a tally sheet. He said if there were ties, there would be a runoff between those candidates.

City Attorney Dunn explained the process to the candidates.

Dwayne Hammond stated that he, his wife and two children had been residents of Perris for almost 16 years, and he had been a member of the Planning Commission for four years. He said he had gained valuable experience and had enjoyed working with the City Council and Staff. He noted that much of Perris' growth had taken place in the last four years and he had appreciated being a part of it and hoped to be able to continue to do so. He gave a brief overview of his educational and employment background, noting that he had 27 years of experience in city government, and said he looked forward to continuing to work with the Commission and the City of Perris.

Dwayne Hammond

Councilmember Rogers asked Mr. Hammond to elaborate on his statement that residential development should "get out of the box." He said he felt creative ideas should be brought forward, using mixed-use development and a variety of housing, creating a sense of community.

Councilmember Rogers' question for Mr. Hammond.

Mr. Motte asked about the time involved in this position. Mr. Hammond said that once you find something you like to do, you find the time to do it.

Councilmember Motte's question for Mr. Hammond.

Judy Haughney thanked the Council for having placed confidence in her four years ago in appointing her as an alternate. She said he had thoroughly enjoyed working on the Commission and looked forward to spending more time doing that and serving the City. He said she, along with her husband and son, had lived in the City for almost 12 years and had been actively involved in various community service organizations. She said she had been a member of the Planning Commission since its inception, first as an alternate, then as a Commissioner, a Vice Chairperson for a year, and now was serving her second year as Chairperson. She appreciated the opportunity to learn so much about the City and the planning process, and said her perspective had changed with the knowledge gained. She hoped that the Council would reappoint her so that she could continue to serve the City of Perris and its citizens to the best of her ability.

Judy Haughney

Mayor Busch asked Ms. Haughney what the most valuable lesson was that she had learned since being on the Planning Commission. She said she had learned to see other people's perspectives and sometimes compromise, coming out with a decision that is reflective of the Council's vision as well as an asset to the community.

Mayor Busch's question for Ms. Haughney.

Councilmember Rogers asked what she felt the City was in need of as far as future development after the commercial and industrial components. Ms. Haughney said she felt retail was the next phase of development for the City, to satisfy the desperate need for that type of development.

Councilmember Rogers' question for Ms. Haughney.

It was noted that Michael Hoover had left the meeting prior to his scheduled presentation.

Michael Hoover

Sal Mancuso, Jr., a self-employed Perris resident for 6 or 7 years, stated his educational background and said his decision to seek appointment to the Commission was based on his desire to make a contribution to the community and help to build it up.

Sal Mancuso, Jr.

Mayor Busch asked Mr. Mancuso if he had an office in Perris. He said he lives in Perris but his office is in Temecula at present, with plans to build one near the Ramona Expressway within a year and a half.

Mayor Busch's question for Mr. Mancuso.

Councilmember Motte asked where he had received his MBA. He said it was from the University of Phoenix.

Councilmember Motte's question for Mr. Mancuso.

Councilmember Landers asked Mr. Mancuso about his knowledge and experience in zoning. He said to be perfectly honest, he had none, but he wanted to be involved and make a difference in the community.

Councilmember Landers' question or Mr. Mancuso.

Paul Mitchell thanked the Council for the opportunity he had been afforded to work on the Planning Commission and said that although he had zoning knowledge before becoming a Commissioner, he was grateful for the great learning experience he had enjoyed. He stated his educational and employment background and said he was pleased to see the growth in businesses and jobs in Perris.

Paul Mitchell

Mayor Busch asked Mr. Mitchell what he felt his major accomplishment had been while serving on the Planning Commission. Mr. Mitchell said the first thing was getting it organized and getting everyone free in expressing themselves and exchanging with Staff. He said that communication and exchanging of ideas was probably what the Commission had done best.

Mayor Busch's question for Mr. Mitchell.

Councilmember Rogers asked what Mr. Mitchell had discovered, in dialogue with businesses, that they felt was missing in the City of Perris. He said that some had felt that Perris had had a bad reputation, and he was trying to educate them to help them understand that things are changing in Perris, that the City is now more pro-growth, and business opportunities are much better than before.

Councilmember Rogers' question for Mr. Mitchell.

Councilmember Landers asked Mr. Mitchell his definition of being a team player on the Commission. He said it involved listening to everybody and openly discussing everything and working as a group, not as an individual. Mr. Landers asked him if he had a lot of knowledge about the field before he became a Commissioner. He said he did, as he had worked with code enforcement in various areas.

Councilmember Landers' question for Mr. Mitchell.

Dick Novison said he had lived in Perris since the early 70's and was now a senior citizen who had enjoyed working on the Commission. An industrial engineer by profession, he said he was happy to have had a part in the growth of Perris and looked forward to having a satellite County Building Department located just across from City Hall, expediting the planning process.

Dick Novison

Councilmember Rogers asked Mr. Novison where he saw the City in 10 years. He said he envisioned a big buildup in industry, especially in warehousing. With the San Jacinto Channel issue probably resolved by that time, he believed the whole south part of the City would be built up with a lot of commercial and residential development.

Councilmember Rogers' question for Mr. Novison.

Mayor Busch asked Mr. Novison what he felt the transportation needs would be for the City. Mr. Novison said he thought Metrolink was going to be a big plus, connecting Perris with the Los Angeles area.

Mayor Busch's question for Mr. Novison.

William Shaffer, a retired 7-year Perris resident, said in earlier years he had been very involved in governmental organizations, as well as working for major corporations as senior planner and engineer and being the inventor of skateboard parks. He said he would like to see more recreational areas in Perris.

William Shaffer

Councilmember Rogers asked Mr. Shaffer about his educational background. He said he graduated as high school valedictorian and had done many extracurricular studies, but was able to be successful at responsible jobs without the benefit of a college education. Ms. Rogers asked Mr. Shaffer about his knowledge of land use development. He said he believed that businesses needed to be carefully balanced with housing, with enough support from businesses to have money to put in roads, stop lights, schools, and parks. He said he had been a senior planner and realized the importance of teamwork.

Councilmember Rogers' questions for Mr. Shaffer.

Councilmember Motte asked Mr. Shaffer how long he had lived in Perris and if he had a family. He said he had lived here seven years and was single now, but had a daughter and grandchildren living in Perris.

Councilmember Motte's question for Mr. Shaffer.

Brian Vidal, a resident of Perris for 13 years, stated that he was married and had two children, worked for the U.S. Postal Service as a letter carrier, and was self educated. He said he had worked with the Planning Department in the past, pulling permits and drawing his own plans and artist's renditions for a room addition. He said he was familiar with Perris building codes and that as a community activist he had brought various issues to the Council on which they had taken action.

Brian Vidal

Councilmember Rogers asked Mr. Vidal about his educational background. He said he had a high school diploma but also read a lot and educated himself. Ms. Rogers also asked him about his knowledge of land use policies and zoning policies. He said that was a pretty wide range, depending on whether it was business or residential, and the area involved.

Councilmember Rogers' questions for Mr. Vidal.

Mayor Busch asked Mr. Vidal how he felt he could work and fit in with the current Planning Commissioners. Mr. Vidal said there were times to lead people and there were other times to have people lead you and give you advice. He said he didn't have a problem working with people.

Mayor Busch's question for Mr. Vidal.

As Mr. Hoover had left the meeting earlier, Mayor Busch asked Mr. Belmudez to read Mr. Hoover's statements on why he wanted to be a Planning Commissioner and regarding his educational and employment background and how they would help to equip him for serving on the Commission, as well as his opinion concerning the most important planning and development issues in Perris and his vision for the future development in the City of Perris.

Michael Hoover

Mayor Busch then had Mr. Belmudez read Mr. DeCosta's statements, as he had not yet arrived at the meeting. Mr. Belmudez read his statements regarding why he wanted to be a Planning Commissioner, how his educational and employment background had prepared him for this position, his opinion concerning the most important planning and development issues in Perris, and his vision for the future development in the City of Perris.

Thomas DeCosta

City Attorney Dunn asked the Council to mark their ballots, voting for four people. He and the City Manager then counted the votes and Mr. Belmudez tallied the votes on the Tally Sheet. Mr. Dunn then read each Councilmember's votes.

City Attorney Dunn asked the Council to mark their ballots, voting for four people. He and the City Manager then counted the votes and Mr. Belmudez tallied the votes on the Tally Sheet. Mr. Dunn then read each Councilmember's votes.

In the first round of voting, Dwayne Hammond and Judy Haughney each received five votes, and Dick Novison received four, with Sal Mancuso and William Shaffer being tied with two votes each.

*First round of voting:
Dwayne Hammond: 5 votes
Judy Haughney: 5 votes
Dick Novison: 4 votes
Sal Mancuso: 2 votes
William Shaffer: 2 votes*

City Attorney Dunn then instructed the Council to vote again, voting for either Sal Mancuso or William Shaffer. He then read each Councilmember's votes.

City Attorney Dunn then instructed the Council to vote again, voting for either Sal Mancuso or William Shaffer. He then read each Councilmember's votes.

In the second round of voting, Sal Mancuso received three votes and William Shaffer received two votes.

*Second round of voting:
San Mancuso: 3 votes
William Shaffer: 2 votes*

City Attorney Dunn read each Councilmember's votes.

City Attorney Dunn read each Councilmember's votes.

City Attorney Dunn announced the four appointments to the Planning Commission: Dwayne Hammond (reappointment); Judy Haughney (reappointment); Dick Noviston (reappointment); and Sal Mancuso, Jr. (new appointment).

Appointments to the Planning Commission:
◆ *Dwayne Hammond*
◆ *Judy Haughney*
◆ *Dick Novison*
◆ *Sal Mancuso*

Mr. Dunn announced that the swearing-in would be done at the Planning Commission on April 5th.

Mr. Dunn announced that the swearing-in would be done at the Planning Commission on April 5th.

Councilmember Motte commended the existing Planning Commission on a job well done.

Councilmember Motte commended the existing Planning Commission for a job well done.

Mayor Pro Tem Yarbrough thanked all those who had participated.

Mayor Pro Tem Yarbrough thanked all those who had participated.

Mayor Busch reminded the public that applications were being accepted for the Board of Directors of the nonprofit organization and encouraged everyone to become involved in the community.

Mayor Busch reminded the public that applications were being accepted for the Board of Directors of the new nonprofit organization and encouraged everyone to become involved in the community.

4. **ADJOURNMENT:**

By unanimous consent, the Special City Council Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

5:10 p.m. Special City Council Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Rey, City Clerk